

**San Francisco Police Acting Commander Mark Im**  
**Talking Points and Briefing Material**

**Tuesday, February 4, 2025**  
**OIS Town Hall Remarks**



**Safety with Respect**

**SFPD Headquarters**  
**Conference Room 1025**  
**Tuesday, February 4, 2025 — 1500 hours**

## Introduction

The Officer Involved Shooting (OIS) discussed in this presentation occurred on Monday, January 27, 2025, at approximately 9:24 p.m. The OIS was preceded by a shooting that took place earlier on the same day at approximately 4:50 p.m.

Medics who were passing by witnessed the shooting and rendered medical aid along with other bystanders.

Responding officers contacted a witness who was driving northbound on 9th Street who observed a male standing over and yelling at another male who was lying on the sidewalk. The witness then saw the male fire several rounds at the male on the ground before walking into 81-9th Street.

After interviewing witnesses and reviewing video surveillance footage from the area, officers tracked the suspect to the sixth floor of 81-9th Street.

During their investigation, officers located the suspect, who had barricaded himself inside an apartment. While attempting to establish communication with the suspect and place him under arrest, an OIS occurred.

In this presentation, you will hear the following police terminology and radio code language commonly used by officers:

- **221** is a person with a gun.
- **217** is a shooting.
- **408** is an ambulance.
- **909** is meet with a citizen.

- **“A” Priority** are calls for service that involve serious incidents. These are emergency calls that require a rapid response because there may be an immediate threat to life or a substantial risk of major property loss or damage.
- **Blue on Blue** is a term used by officers to alert each other of potential crossfire.
- **BWC** is Body Worn Camera.
- **Crisis/Hostage Negotiations Team** is often referred to as C/H.N.T., whose members are officers and sergeants who receive specialized training to assist in resolving incidents through communication such as: crisis and hostage situations, barricaded individuals, high-risk suicide threats, and high-risk warrant service.
- **Critical Incident** is a life-threatening situation that requires a coordinated tactical response in a specific location. Examples include barricaded individuals, hostage situations, and active attacker incidents. A full list of critical incidents can be found in Department General Order 8.01.
- **Dispatch** is the Department of Emergency Management Dispatcher and Radio Communications System.
- **Extended Range Impact Weapon or 40mm Launcher** is a less lethal force option. Specialist Team and Tactical Unit members use this weapon to deploy a projectile such as a 40mm foam baton or pepper-ball chemical agent. These are designed to temporarily incapacitate an individual.
- **Kinetic Breaching Tool or KBT** is a specialized device used to force entry into a locked or reinforced door.
- **Specialist or Spec** is a member of the SFPD Specialist Team which is an on-call specialized unit within the Special Operations Bureau consisting of officers and sergeants trained in responding to high priority crimes in progress, resolving Critical Incidents, Dignitary Protection, Crowd Control, Waterborne Operations, and assisting the Tactical Unit with high-risk warrant service.

- **Tactical Unit** often referred to as TAC or SWAT, is a full-time specialized unit within the Special Operations Bureau trained in responding to high-risk incidents.
- **Tactical Emergency Medics or TEMS** are San Francisco Fire Department members embedded within the San Francisco Police Department's Tactical Unit to immediately render medical aid at the scene of critical incidents, active shooter incidents, and high-risk warrant services.

The precise chronology of this incident is currently under investigation. We are still in the very early stages of an administrative investigation that can take months to complete, and our understanding of the incident may change as additional evidence is collected and reviewed.

The times presented are approximate. The following is a summary of the events as they are understood today and may evolve as further information is learned through the investigation.

As of February 4, 2025, we believe the facts are as follows:

### **Incident Narrative**

1. On Monday, January 27, 2025, at approximately 4:50 p.m., officers responded to the area of Mission and 9<sup>th</sup> Streets regarding a shooting that just occurred.
2. On scene, officers located a witness who was driving northbound on 9<sup>th</sup> Street when he observed the shooting.

3. The witness told officers he observed a male standing over another male who was laying on the sidewalk and then fire several rounds at the victim. The witness then saw the suspect walk into 81 – 9<sup>th</sup> Street.
4. Officers escorted the victim as he was transported to the hospital by ambulance. The victim told officers he was standing in front of 79 - 9th Street when a male approached him, riding a black electric bicycle. After coming to a stop, the male got off the bike and walked directly toward him.
5. The victim told officers the suspect pointed a firearm at him and shot him several times. The victim described the suspect as an Asian male wearing a baseball hat and black clothing.
6. Multiple officers from surrounding districts responded as back-up, secured a perimeter, and evacuated surrounding units that were occupied. Members from the Tactical Unit also responded to assist.
7. Other responding officers reviewed video surveillance footage and were able to obtain a detailed description of the suspect, including that he was armed with a firearm.
8. While watching the video surveillance footage, officers observed the victim standing on the sidewalk when the suspect approached him on foot. The suspect pulled out a firearm from his waistband with his right hand and walked toward the victim with the firearm lowered at his side.
9. As the suspect walked toward the victim, he raised the firearm with his right hand while simultaneously raising his left hand to grip the firearm.

10. The suspect discharged the firearm toward the victim who reacted by raising his arms in a defensive position.
11. The victim's body jerked, and he fell to the ground.
12. The suspect continued to advance towards the victim as he continued to discharge his firearm while standing over the victim who was lying on the sidewalk.
13. Based on the video surveillance footage, officers tracked the suspect as he walked into 81 - 9<sup>th</sup> Street and determined that the suspect entered unit 607 or 608.
14. After further investigation, officers were able to identify the suspect as Cheasarack Chong who lived in apartment 608.
15. Once officers determined Mr. Chong had not exited his apartment, a Lieutenant from Tenderloin Station declared a critical incident.
16. Officers assigned to the Crisis/Hostage Negotiation Team, Specialist Team, and additional members of the Tactical Unit responded to the scene.
17. Officers began to formulate a plan to communicate with and take Mr. Chong safely into custody.
18. Crisis Hostage Negotiators made numerous attempts to contact Mr. Chong for approximately two hours but Mr. Chong did not respond and remained non-compliant.
19. Members of the Specialist Team and Tactical Unit responded to the roof of 81 – 9<sup>th</sup> Street in an attempt to obtain a visual into the unit Mr. Chong was located.

20. Members of the Tactical Unit made numerous announcements from the front door.
21. Members of the Tactical Unit made the following announcement: “San Francisco Police Department, search warrant, resident of 81- 9<sup>th</sup> Street room 608, come out the front door with your hands up, you are under arrest. If you don’t come out force can and will be used.”
22. Mr. Chong responded by yelling, “Get out of my building!”
23. A member from the Tactical Unit who was located on the roof of 81 – 9<sup>th</sup> Street deployed two 40mm foam baton projectiles from the roof of the building into Mr. Chong’s window in an attempt to gain a tactical advantage and visual of Mr. Chong.
24. Mr. Chong discharged his firearm from within his apartment at officers who were on the roof of 81 – 9<sup>th</sup> Street. After several seconds, a member from the Tactical Unit returned fire and an OIS occurred.
25. A member from the Tactical Unit continued to give call outs and offered medical aid to Mr. Chong with no response.
26. Live video feed from a drone revealed that Mr. Chong was not moving and laying on the kitchen floor with a rifle slung on his body. Officers used the drone to assist in clearing the apartment.
27. A member from the Tactical Unit deployed rounds from a Kinetic Breaching Tool at Mr. Chong’s front door to gain access into his apartment.

28. At approximately 10:00 p.m. members from the Tactical Unit entered Mr. Chong's apartment with a Tactical Medic who assessed Mr. Chong's injury and determined that he was deceased.

### **Suspect**

- Cheasarack Chong
- Date of birth: November 15, 1990

### **Evidence**

- Crime Scene Investigators from the San Francisco Police Department Forensic Services Division responded and collected physical evidence from the scene, including, but not limited to the following items:
  - Two SFPD 40mm foam baton projectiles.

#### **The following seized items belong to Mr. Chong:**

- One Smith & Wesson M&P15 Rifle with one magazine loaded with (23) .223 caliber cartridges.
- One magazine loaded with (30) .223 caliber cartridges.
- One magazine loaded with (27) .223 caliber cartridges.
- One Sig Sauer SP2022 Semi-Automatic Handgun.
- One Glock 17 Handgun with one magazine loaded with (1) 9mm cartridge.
- One Rock Island Semi-Automatic Handgun with one magazine loaded with (8) .45 caliber cartridges.
- Ten 9mm unfired cartridges.



- One 9mm magazine.
- One magazine loaded with (10) 9mm cartridges.
- One Ballistic Armor Vest.
- Five .223 caliber fired cartridge casings.
- Two .223 caliber unfired cartridges.

### **Video Footage and Photographs**

- Officers on scene were wearing department issued body worn cameras, which were activated during the incident. The body worn cameras recorded the events as they unfolded.
- The Independent Investigations Bureau (IIB) is an independent unit, within the San Francisco District Attorney's Office, that investigates and reviews all officer-involved shootings. Any relevant video footage or photographs can be provided to IIB by calling (628) 652-4420 or by e-mail at [SFDA-IIB@sfgov.org](mailto:SFDA-IIB@sfgov.org).

### **Victims & Witnesses**

- All victims and witnesses from these incidents are encouraged to call IIB at (628) 652-4420.

### **Involved Members**

The SFPD Officer who discharged his firearm in this incident is:

- Officer David Edgerson, a member assigned to the Tactical Unit

## **Training**

The officer who discharged his firearm is a member of the SFPD Tactical Unit. Tactical Unit members undergo specialized, intensive training that far exceeds the standard requirements for police officers. This includes advanced firearm proficiency, tactical operations, and de-escalation techniques.

Their training is specifically focused on responding to high-priority crimes in progress and resolving critical incidents. It prepares them to handle the most dangerous and complex situations, such as armed suspects, active attackers, and high-risk warrant service. Prior to joining the Tactical Unit, this officer was also a member of the Department's Specialist Team.

The SFPD Tactical Unit collaborates closely with the Crisis/Hostage Negotiation Team to resolve incidents.

All Tactical Unit members are trained in Crisis Intervention Training. Additionally, the Tactical Unit plays a key role in instructing recruits at the Police Academy, providing training in Critical Mindset Coordinated Response, Active Attacker scenarios, and other essential skills.